

Art Unit: 2655

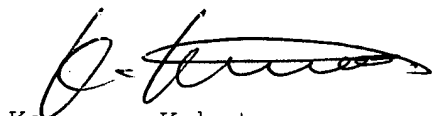
REMARKS

In paragraph 3 of the Action, claims 1 to 4 were rejected. In paragraph 4 of the Action, claims 5 to 14 were allowed. In paragraph 5 of the Action, claims 15 to 20 were allowed. In paragraph 7 of the Action, claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art, in view of *Otsuka* (US Patent No. 6,546,367). In paragraph 8 of the Action, claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art, in view of *Otsuka*, further in view of *Vermeulen et al.* (US Patent No. 6,810,379).

In view of the rejections, claims 1 to 4 have been canceled. With the amendments, the application should be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Three-month extension of time is requested. The credit card payment form in the amount of \$1,020 has been attached herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



Kazunao Kubotera

Reg. No. 51,194

25

TAKEUCHI & KUBOTERA, LLP

200 Daingerfield Rd.

Suite 202

Alexandria, VA 22314

30 Tel. (703) 684-9777

Fax. (703) 684-1390